

Updated on August 30th , 2023



General Information about the league – reviewed annually and posted on the wmvl website under the ‘**About**’ page in early August prior to each season.

Background

The Winnipeg Men’s Volleyball League (WMVL) had its beginnings in 1957. Initially the league was organized by the Manitoba Volleyball Association (MVA). Through the efforts of one of the founding builders of the league, the late Mr. Wezer Bridle, the league is now run by an independent board of elected volunteers. The league operates as a non-profit organization and is registered with and utilizes the support services of Volleyball Manitoba.

WMVL had 66 teams for the 2022-2023 Season. The season was run with updated bylaws that removed the requirement for all participants to be fully vaccinated.

2023-2024 Season Planning

The league is always prepared to grow to accommodate new teams. So connect with your old school buddies/alumni or form a new team from your coed team - Whatever – pick up a player from the players looking for teams list on the web site. If you need help contact Glen Cook at president@wmvl.com.

The Registration process begins with an organizational meeting in late August at which a budget is presented and the bylaws are reviewed. Those teams that attend and pay the \$500 deposit are eligible to vote on how the league will run for the season. The deposit can be sent by etransfer in advance of the meeting to secure your spot. Deposits can be sent beginning August 15th.

What the Season Looks like

The league runs a 26-game season. Games are played Tuesday through Friday, at Dakota Community Centre, Qualico Training Centre (Sport for Life), MBCI Blue and Red gyms, River Osboure Community Centre, Red River College, Westgrove School, and Precious Blood School. Access to facilities and reasonable game times has improved so that most late games are scheduled at 9:15 p.m.

New Teams

There are always a few teams that drop out so new teams are always welcome. New teams generally have to start at the bottom tier and work their way up (see by-laws under the About page for details), however the executive undertakes extra effort to place new stronger teams in open spots in higher tiers if at all possible. Remember there are no guarantees.



New Players

Individual players who want to connect with a team can add their name to the Player List database that is managed through the wmvl web site. The league does not manage individual teams and no promises are made about how successful the connections will be.

League format

WMVL changed to a three-round format in the 2011-2012 season and extended the season to a 24 match schedule and added two exhibition games again in 2014-2015 for a total of 26 matches. The Exhibition games are called the Wezer Bridle Cup Series. The winners of each tier will be rewarded with an appropriate prize. In 2022-23 the prize was t-shirts.

The league is considering changes to the season format in 2023-2024. Proposal number one is to start the season two weeks earlier to avoid playing games after the spring break. It has been determined that there is not enough time to set this up for 2023-2024. MBCI have advised that additional gym time would not be available for playoffs before the spring break for use in scheduling full court games. This will be reviewed at the end of the season.

Proposal number two being considered is to extend the exhibition series by one game and shorten playoffs by one game thereby not all teams will make the championship playoffs. The new format would mean that the top 4 teams will make the championship playoffs after the end of the third round. No change to the 26-game schedule would be made as the third round of playoffs would be moved to the exhibition series to allow a full series of games for the exhibition series allowing a full 8 team bracket with all games best of five. By making only the top 4 teams make the championship playoffs after the third round, there will be more incentive on teams to compete for every win in the third round. First would play fourth and second would play third. Winners would play winners and losers would play losers. The bottom four teams would play a two-game series to finalize the tier rankings. Playoffs would then be in consecutive weeks after spring break without the current break between the first round and rounds two and three.

Proposal number two also includes a new incentive to reward the winner of round 2 with a \$50 team Nocho gift card. It is also proposed to reward the winner of the consolation playoffs with one of the used game balls to encourage participation in the consolation playoffs.

The league is structured into 9 tiers with approximately 8 teams per tier. Tier 1 is composed of the highest skilled teams. Each match is a minimum of 4 sets with a 5th game played for tie breakers. All set wins are counted in the scoring. Tier movement

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occurs after the conclusion of each round and after playoffs. After each round (except the 3rd round) the top two team moves up and the bottom two team drop down.

Each team must have a minimum of 8 players and all players must register on-line with Volleyball Manitoba. The fee to join Volleyball Manitoba was \$150 per team (in 2022). This provides among other services individual insurance coverage which is required by the league to be able to rent all facilities. Team captains will register the team on the Volleyball Manitoba website at <https://volleyballmanitoba.ca/online-registration> using the on-line registration system by September 1st.

All teams must pay their deposit of \$500 to be included in the exhibition matches which begin the second last week of September. The purpose of the exhibition matches is to provide for teams to get organized and to provide the league with an opportunity to evaluate new teams so that they may be potentially placed into open placements within the league structure.

The regular season is broken down into three rounds and runs from the **second** week of October to early April. Each round is a round robin of 7 games. Each round may take about 8 weeks to play depending upon gym availability. The first round will be completed around mid November, the second round will be completed around the end of January and the third round will end before Spring Break. Many league members are teachers or parents who likely travel so no games are scheduled during Xmas Break, University study week and Spring Break.

Only the top four teams make the championship playoffs and are guaranteed 2 games. The bottom four teams would play in the consolation playoffs. Only team members who participated in a minimum of 4 games are eligible for playoffs. Prizes (usually league embroidered or silk-screened sports bags, t-shirts, hats or hoodies) are awarded for playoff champion, runner up, and third place. Playoff results and regular season results are both used to determine rankings for the next season (see by-laws for details). **Consolation winners would win a used game ball.**

Game Nights

The following are the standardized nights with minor exceptions when individual teams have arranged usage of a gym on a non-standard night for the tier that they play in.

Tier 1 – Thursdays – Dakota Community Centre, Qualico Training Centre (Sport for Life), MBCI Red & Blue, Red River College

Tier 2 – Thursdays - Dakota Community Centre, Qualico Training Centre (Sport for Life), MBCI Red & Blue, Red River College

Tier 3 – Thursdays - Dakota Community Centre, Qualico Training Centre (Sport for Life), MBCI Red & Blue, Red River College

Tier 4 – Tuesdays - River Osbourne, Red River College, MBCI Red & Blue

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- Tier 5 - Tuesdays - River Osbourne, Red River College, MBCI Red & Blue
- Tier 6 – Thursdays - Dakota Community Centre, Qualico Training Centre (Sport for Life), MBCI Red & Blue, Red River College
- Tier 7 – Wednesdays - Dakota Community Centre, Qualico Training Centre (Sport for Life), MBCI Red & Blue, Red River College
- Tier 8 – Wednesdays - Dakota Community Centre, Qualico Training Centre (Sport for Life), MBCI Red & Blue, Red River College
- Tier 9 – Wednesdays - Dakota Community Centre, Qualico Training Centre (Sport for Life), MBCI Red & Blue, Red River College

Registration Process

Organizational Meeting for the 2023-2024 Season will be held on Tuesday August 29, 2023 at Manitoba Sports Centre in the Conference Room. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting commences at 6:00 p.m. and is usually complete within one hour. There will be an opportunity to join in by zoom as well. The fees for the season are finalized at the organizational meeting. Notice about the Organizational Meeting will be posted on the web site in early August.

Teams who miss the Organizational Meeting may be able to still register if they contact the league executive before September 15th to see if their spot has not already been taken.

Contact the league president, Glen Cook at president@wmvl.com or on his cell phone at 204-479-2520 for more information and to arrange payment of your deposit.

WMVL uses Volleyball Manitoba's on-line registration system that was updated in 2022. All member information should remain in the system and returning members simply have to update their personal information and pay the annual membership fee of about \$150 plus GST per team. The registration system provides WMVL with a team listing, ensures all players have adequate insurance and ensures players are only registered with one. Follow the link to the MB Volleyball site to connect to the registration system.

Registration Steps

Step 1 – Refunds of Performance Bonds

Teams that are not planning to return are asked to send an email to the president or treasurer so performance bonds can be returned. Teams that have outstanding accounts are asked to contact the treasurer to work out payment arrangements to re-establish an account in good standing. Teams that have outstanding accounts will not be allowed to return until all outstanding accounts are cleared up.

Step 2 – WMVL Organizational Meeting – Tuesday August 29, 2023.

Teams must send a representative to begin the registration process for the team and pay a \$500 deposit (cheque, etransfer, money order, no cash accepted, charge card (we will not

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use credit cards as the transaction fees are in the order of 4%), to hold their spot for the season. Send the deposit in before the meeting etransfer is preferred, deposits will be taken beginning August 15th. The final budget will be approved by the membership at the organizational meeting. The remaining balance of fees is due before the end of September. Only the deposit is required at the first meeting.

Step 3 –Registration with Volleyball Manitoba - The on-line registration system for WMVL will be open to new and returning teams to pre-register their team and add players beginning about September 1st. Team contacts will register their team and pay the Volleyball Manitoba portion of the fees directly to Volleyball Manitoba (\$ 150 fee per team plus gst **plus service fee**). Visa or Mastercard may be used. Refunds will be available if the team does not participate in the league.

Step 4 – Team contacts assemble their team by updating team members contact information including date of birth. A minimum of 8 registered players is required to complete registration of a team.

Step 5 – Payment of balance of League Fees –The balance of fees, estimated to be \$1440 will also be made by etransfer or cheque to WMVL, care of 366 Almey Ave, Winnipeg MB, R3W 1P3 or to the following email ccas.gncook@gmail.com or president@wmvl.com. Final payments must be made before the end of September. If either payments are received after that date, an automatic late fee of \$25 that will be applied and taken from the team’s performance bond.

PAYMENT OF THE ALL FEES \$1940 WILL BE ACCEPTED AS A SINGLE PAYMENT AT ANY TIME.

Step 6 – Payment of Performance Bond

Each team must maintain a \$100 Performance Bond. All teams can pay the whole or outstanding amount at the organizational meeting or prior to September 30. Please check your team’s performance bond status by referring to the previous Annual Meeting report.

Fees

Fees cover the costs to rent facilities, hire officials, and purchase all support equipment, services and expenses to run the league including game balls, first aid equipment, website, game sheets, flip cards, equipment boxes, prizes, mileage expenses etc. The estimated fees for the upcoming season are \$1940 per team plus \$100 performance bond plus \$150 per team for Volleyball Manitoba insurance. Performance bond is refundable providing teams fulfill all league commitments. See by-laws for details about fines and performance requirements.

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Miscellaneous

All matches are officiated by members of the Manitoba Volleyball Officials Association (MVOA). Members of WMVL are encouraged to become members of MVOA as there is always a need for more officials.

The Annual General Meeting for WMVL is usually after the season ends in April or more recently has been combined with the organizational meeting for the next season. The meeting is usually held at the conference centre at Manitoba Sports for Life facility 145 Pacific Ave.